

Appl. No. 10/604,362  
Amdt. dated January 16, 2005  
Reply to Office action of November 03, 2005

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

1. Objection to claims 6-8:

Claims 6-8 are objected to as a claim cannot depend from a higher numbered claim.

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**Response:**

Claims 6-8 have been cancelled, and instead renumbered as new claims 13-15.  
Acceptance of new claims 13-15 is respectfully requested.

10 2. Rejection of claims 1 and 3-5 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a):

Claims 1 and 3-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ker et al. (US 6,249,410) in view of Carobolante (US 5,550,497).

**Response:**

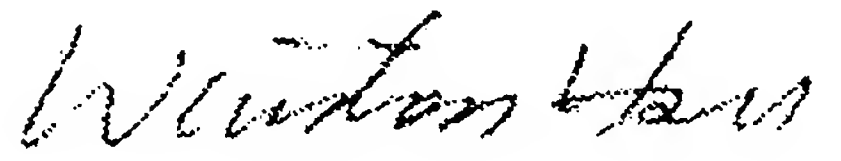
15 Claim 1 has been amended to overcome this rejection. Claim 1 now contains the limitations previously found in claim 12, and claim 12 has been subsequently cancelled. Claim 12 had been indicated as allowable, and therefore claim 1 should now be in allowable form.

20 Claims 2-5 and new claims 13-15 are dependent on claim 1, and should be allowed if claim 1 is allowed. Reconsideration of claims 1-5 is respectfully requested.

25 In view of the above claim amendments, the applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

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Sincerely yours,



Date: 01/16/2006

5 Winston Hsu, Patent Agent No. 41,526  
P.O. BOX 506, Merrifield, VA 22116, U.S.A.  
Voice Mail: 302-729-1562  
Facsimile: 806-498-6673  
e-mail : winstonhsu@naipo.com

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